

Lecture 21

In this lecture we complete our study of propositional logic and begin a brief study of predicate logic.

Eg.

Construct the truth table for the compound propositions $\neg(P \vee Q)$ and $\neg P \wedge \neg Q$.

Solⁿ

P	Q	$P \vee Q$	$\neg(P \vee Q)$	P	Q	$\neg P$	$\neg Q$	$\neg P \wedge \neg Q$
T	T	T	F	T	T	F	F	F
T	F	T	F	T	F	F	T	F
F	T	T	F	F	T	T	F	F
F	F	F	T	F	F	T	T	T

Qⁿ

What is the relationship between these two compound propⁿs?

Answer

$$\neg(P \vee Q) \equiv \neg P \wedge \neg Q$$

This is one of the de Morgan laws for logic.

The other is:

$$\neg(P \wedge Q) \equiv \neg P \vee \neg Q$$

Exercise: show this using truth tables.

Consequence

Any expression using "or" can be replaced by an expression using "and" and "not".

I'll have a hamburger or a slice of pizza for lunch

\equiv It's not true that I won't have a hamburger and that I won't have a slice of pizza for lunch.

Hierarchy of Connectives

\neg
 \wedge
 \vee
 \Rightarrow
 \Leftrightarrow

$(\neg p) \wedge q$

$\neg p \wedge q$ means $(\neg p) \wedge q$. etc.

$A \wedge B \vee C$ means $(A \wedge B) \vee C$

But because \wedge and \vee look so similar, we almost always use brackets in this sort of expression.

E.g.

$$P \wedge Q \Rightarrow P \vee R$$

P	Q	R	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee R$	$P \wedge Q \Rightarrow P \vee R$
T	T	T	T	T	T
T	T	F	T	T	T
T	F	T	F	T	T
T	F	F	F	F	T
F	T	T	F	T	T
F	T	F	F	T	T
F	F	T	F	T	T
F	F	F	F	F	T

If the last column in a truth table has only F (for false), then the compound propⁿ is called a contradiction.

E.g. show that $(P \wedge Q) \wedge \neg P$ is a contradiction.

If a compound propⁿ is neither a tautology nor a contradiction then the last column of the truth table will have both T and F appearing.

Such a compound propⁿ is called a contingency.

Note

Several logical equivalences have been established:

$$P \Rightarrow Q \equiv \neg P \vee Q$$

$$P \Leftrightarrow Q \equiv (P \Rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \Rightarrow P)$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \neg(P \wedge Q) \equiv \neg P \vee \neg Q \\ \neg(P \vee Q) \equiv \neg P \wedge \neg Q \end{array} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \neg(P \wedge Q) \equiv \neg P \vee \neg Q \\ \neg(P \vee Q) \equiv \neg P \wedge \neg Q \end{array}} \right\} \text{de Morgan's laws}$$

A consequence is that all compounds prop^s can be expressed using only two connectives: negation & conjunction, or negation & disjunction, or negation & implication.

E.g. If dogs have humps then the moon is green

\equiv Dogs don't have humps or the moon is green.

Predicate Logic

We contrast propositions & predicates.

A proposition has to be unambiguously true or false.

In contrast, a predicate is a statement involving at least one variable x (say). The truth value may depend on the value of x .

Eg. Let $P(x)$ mean " x is an integer".
Then $P(2)$ is true, but $P(\pi)$ is false.

E.g.

Let $Y(t)$ mean "my friend t has yellow hair".

Then $Y(\text{Emily})$ may be true, while

$Y(\text{Steve})$ may be false.

What values is the variable allowed to take?

There may be several variables. E.g., let

$T(x, y)$ mean x and y are relatively prime.

The variables have to range over some set D , called the domain of interpretation or the universe of discourse.

E.g. Let the domain of interpretation for a predicate $T(x, y)$ be $D = \mathbb{Z}$ = the set of all integers. Let $T(x, y)$ mean that x and y are relatively prime.

Then $T(10, 21)$ is true
while $T(12, 15)$ is false.

Why? $T(10, 21)$ means "10 and 21 are relatively prime".
This is true.

$T(12, 15)$ means "12 and 15 are relatively prime".
This is false, because $3|12$ and also $3|15$.

It's natural to introduce the idea of a quantifier when we're considering predicates. These tell us how often the predicate is true.

\forall — "for all"

\exists — "there exists"

Predicate logic involves statements like these:

$\forall x P(x)$ [for all x , $P(x)$ is true]

$\forall x \exists y P(x,y)$ [for all x there exists y
such that $P(x,y)$ is true]

We study these in detail next time.